

Service Award in 1995. He was also past President of the Warrensburg Rotary Club, a Paul Harris Fellow, and a member of the Missouri Bar and Johnson County Bar Association. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Warrensburg and a life member of the American Legion.

Mr. Crouch is survived by his wife, Sue; two sons, Garrett and Jeff; and one grandson, Drew.

Mr. Speaker, Garrett Crouch was a true friend through the years, to both myself and my father. He will be missed by everyone who had the privilege to know him. I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to this fine Missourian.

LEGISLATION TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE TRADE ACT OF 1974

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 1999

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced legislation which will amend the provisions of the Trade Act of 1974.

I think that everyone will agree that reimbursement of training costs under the Trade Readjustment Act (TRA) is of critical importance to those individuals who have been negatively impacted by the North American Free Trade Act (NAFTA). I have seen firsthand companies relocating and jobs being lost because of this Act.

Currently, an individual cannot be reimbursed by TRA funds for any training costs which have been incurred prior to the approval of the training program under the TRA.

In fact, an individual in my District encountered this problem. My constituent was laid off due to job relocation and started school just days prior to the certification of the TRA petition. Since the TRA makes no provisions to retroactively approve training, the individual did not receive a reimbursement. His only other choice would have been to deny his training an entire semester which would have meant he would be out of work even longer.

The legislation I introduced today would prevent this from occurring again by providing a retroactive 30-day period, preceding the date the Secretary approves the TRA petition, during which someone could be reimbursed for training expenses under the act.

This is the only way for individuals who try to plan ahead and then find themselves in this type of situation to take advantage of the funds allocated under TRA.

I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this modest proposal.

GAY AND LESBIAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB TWENTY-FIVE YEAR FIGHT FOR GAY RIGHTS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 1999

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the Gay and Lesbian Democratic Club, on its twenty-fifth anniversary.

The Gay and Lesbian Independent Democrats (GLID) began as the Gay Independent Democrats five years after the Stonewall demonstrations.

GLID has played a central role in the fight for gay rights and in the election of openly gay candidates. An early leader of GLID, Christopher Lynn served as the head of New York's Taxi and Limousine Commission and later as NYC Transportation Commissioner. More recently, GLID leaders such as Tom Duane and Deborah Glick, two of the first openly gay persons elected to office in New York, used GLID as a springboard to elected office. In recent years, GLID played pivotal roles in the elections of three gay City Council Members, Christine Quinn, Margarita Lopez and Phil Reed.

As fighters for gay rights, GLID has been in the forefront of the effort to enact an appropriate domestic partnership bill in New York City. At the Federal level, GLID has worked to promote civil rights for gays, including efforts to pass the Anti-Hate Crimes Bill. GLID is one of the leading organizations fighting anti-gay measures like the Defense of Marriage Act and the Religious Liberties Freedom Act.

As part of their celebration GLID will honor three outstanding gay leaders in the city and state of New York. Two of these honorees, Tim Gay and Harry Wieder are long time members of GLID. Through their work with GLID, they have helped to reach out and mobilize gays and lesbians to elect progressive candidates. They have manned the barricades to protest injustices like the murder of Matthew Shepherd and discrimination in the military.

Tim Gay is a long time district leader in the Chelsea area of New York City, Tim Gay's diligence in fighting to improve the quality of life for his constituents has greatly contributed to the revitalization of Chelsea.

Harry Wieder in addition to his activities as a gay activist, has served as a leading advocate for the physically and mentally disabled. As a founder and board member of the 504 Democratic Club (named for a key provision in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973), Harry Wieder has fought tirelessly for the disabled and the reform of our health care system.

Barbara Kavanaugh was one of the first openly lesbian officeholders in New York State. A true trailblazer, Barbara was elected to the Buffalo City Council as an openly gay candidate. She currently serves as the Assistant Attorney General for Buffalo and has been active in the National Stonewall Democratic Federation.

I salute GLID for leading the fight to ensure full rights for gays and lesbians. This battle may take another twenty-five years, but with the strong efforts of GLID and others we can succeed.

H.R. 1400, THE BOND PRICE COMPETITION IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 1999

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I am in receipt of the following correspondence from the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BARRETT), the chairman of the Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities, Resource Conservation,

and Credit, regarding H.R. 1400. I submit the letter for the RECORD.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, DC, May 24, 1999.

Hon. TOM BLILEY,
Chairman, House Commerce Committee, House of Representatives, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I want to take this opportunity to offer my congratulations on your bill, H.R. 1400, the Bond Price Competition Improvement Act of 1999. This important legislation will improve transparency in the bond market that will be beneficial to those purchasing these important financial instruments.

In reading the bill's report language, I note in section 3 that the bill's proposed changes "are to affect only debt securities." The report language states further that these "changes are not intended to affect the exemption from registration requirements enjoyed by securities issued by government sponsored enterprises, or to impose any requirements on government sponsored enterprises."

As chairman of the House Agriculture credit subcommittee, I am extremely sensitive to proposals affecting the providers of credit to farmers and ranchers across our nation. The Farm Credit System, a government sponsored enterprise whose authorities fall solely within the jurisdiction of the Agriculture Committee, is an important provider of credit to production agriculture. The 500,000 farmers who use Farm Credit System institutions for their credit needs are facing terrific challenges brought about by bad weather, low commodity prices and lost export markets. Any change in registration requirements and the cost associated with such a change would be unwelcome, particularly at a time of such stress in the agricultural economy. Again, I note your bill in no way contemplates changes relative to securities issues by the Farm Credit System and therefore I am pleased to support H.R. 1400.

I appreciate all the work you have done on this legislation, and I look forward to working with you on issues of mutual concern in the future.

Sincerely,

BILL BARRETT,
Chairman, Subcommittee on
General Farm Commodities,
Resource Conservation and Credit.

HONORING THE OAKLAND HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 1999

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishment of a dedicated group of young men who worked together in the true spirit of sportsmanship to achieve a distinguished goal.

The Oakland High School baseball team of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, won the state 3-A baseball championship this past season, the first Rutherford County high school team to ever win a state baseball championship.

These players trained vigorously and played tirelessly, as their 37-2 record indicates. They deserve recognition for a job well done.

I congratulate each team member, head coach Mack Hawks, assistant coach Jeff Mitchell, managers Brian Johnsey and Jacob Lamb, and school Principal Ken Nolan. I know they won't soon forget this milestone.